

Nashville Union.

For Freedom and Nationality.

S. C. HENNER, Editor.

THURSDAY MORNING, SEPT. 25, 1862.

The Aristocracy of Mr. Stephens' Confederacy Compared with that of Europe.

We said yesterday that the aristocracy which would be established in a Confederacy based on slavery as its "chief corner-stone," would be the worst, the most illiberal and despotic in the world. This proposition may appear rather bold, and yet we conceive that it can easily be proved. We say then that an aristocratic governing class is liberal and just in the proportion that it approaches the class which it governs. If in an aristocratic government there be an easy gradation, a sort of gentle inclined plane from the masses governed to the class which governs, there will be a sympathy existing between the two, a good feeling, a mutual respect and regard not to be found under a government where the masses, which constitute the bulk of all countries, the laboring classes, who have ever been and must ever be the overwhelming majority of all nations, are placed under the ban of a social and mental degradation from which they can never rise, and are separated from their rulers by a gulf as wide and impassable as that which separated the rich man and Lazarus. To illustrate. Although we are accustomed to speak of the oppressed millions of England and France, and of the sufferings of the laboring classes, still all intelligent men know that the barrier which excludes them from the highest positions in art, literature, the learned professions, and even the highest offices both in church and State, although formidable, are by no means impassable. The nobles every now and then, by some friendly hand extended from the ranks of the aristocracy, win for themselves both fortune and renown. Need we name Sidney Smith, Brougham, Jeffreys, Macaulay, Hood, Herschell, Watt, Walter Scott, and many of the most distinguished members of Parliament, as eminent examples of the truth of what we say? The nobleman, proud and vain, it may be, under whose eye some bad of genius may be slowly unfolding its modest petals to the light, often feels a personal vanity in taking it to bloom in the full sunshine of his patronage and favor. The man of genius and talent often becomes his associate, confidant and counselor, and the instructor of his children. There is no social degradation felt in such an intimacy. It is regarded on both sides as the patronage and protection of power extended by a wise and provident liberality to decided merit. English and French history abound in such examples. Hence it may be said that to a considerable extent the aristocracy of Europe is the foster parent of talent and genius. But even this is far from being the only manner in which a community of feeling is kept up between the ruling and laboring classes in England. Hundreds of the nobility take pains to disseminate useful information among the humblest tenants, and in adding to their comforts. Mechanics and artisans are encouraged in the formation of craft associations; in holding industrial exhibitions; in establishing scientific and moral societies; and in various other ways, which will readily be recalled to mind by all who have been accustomed to read English newspapers. And hence it follows that there is in Great Britain today, underneath the aristocracy and the crown, a great middle class blending imperceptibly with the ruling orders on the one side and the humblest laborers on the other, which is one of the most intelligent and enterprising classes in the civilized world.

Now, let us look at the elements of which society must be constituted in a Southern Confederacy. The "chief corner-stone" of this Confederacy, says Vice President Stephens, who is the master intellect of the Richmond dynasty, is "African Slavery." Every man knows what he means by the chief corner-stone—it must be that on which the Confederacy is to rest, and that is the laboring class, who are African Slaves. And what rank do these laborers hold? Why we may define it in one word almost by saying that they are of necessity—by the natural instinct of their masters—forever socially, intellectually, and morally degraded. The African slave is no more capable of attaining any social intimacy with his owner, or achieving any in art, in the learned professions, in belles-lettres, than the mule be hitches to his plough. In many of the States his owner would subject himself to a heavy penalty if he were to teach him to read; and no degree of genius which the slave might manifest would ever induce his master to admit him to his table, or into his parlor, on the same terms which he would extend to the most good and unpolished white man. The natural instincts of the race revolt against such an intimacy.

Here, then, we see an immeasurable gulf, not to be bridged, yawning between the dominant class in the Confederacy, numbering some two hundred and fifty thousand slaveholders, and the three thousand and a half of slaves which they possess. We exclude from this estimate the masters and slaves of the Border States, as they can by no possibility be reckoned as members of the Confederacy in any event. What follows? Why we have, first, a vast body of the people of

the Confederacy—the producing class—who are utterly insignificant as an intellectual, social and moral element. We might just as well talk of Lyceums, Colleges, Schools and cheap magazines, for our Shagbats, Durham cattle, Spanish Jacks, Berkshire pigs, or Cashmere goats, as for our Negro slaves. Now, suppose we stop right here and ask the simple question, Which nation will attain the highest rank in every respect—that which rests on an intelligent, thinking class, or the one which is supported by barbarians?—Would the Southern Confederacy, if allowed to exist until the final trump of doom shall sound, be likely to produce the inventors, the artists, the poets, the scholars, the members of the learned professions, which England produces every year? We think not; for the latter offers incentives to talent, the former none. But let us look at the influence which this degraded and stupid basis in the Southern Confederacy would inevitably exert on the minds and tastes of the ruling class. For the masters to escape becoming despots, they must be blessed by a miraculous interposition of Divine power. Give a man power over a herd of ignorant, besotted creatures, who he knows must continue without improvement, and whom his own safety and the stern command of the law compels him to restrain from making any improvements, and who, even if improvement were possible, are wretchedly incapacitated from rising socially as the horse he rides, and that man must become despotic in temper. No British nobleman has half the power over his tenants that a cotton, or sugar, or tobacco planter has over his slaves; and as far as power over human beings constitutes greatness, no Duke, no Peer of the British realm has a tithe of the power that is possessed by the planter who owns two hundred or five hundred slaves. We conceive that however excellent as members of society these men may be, they are not exactly the sort of masters whom we would desire to live under, as the holders of political power. Have we no cause for asserting that it is the purpose of the leaders of this rebellion to establish a slave-aristocracy, if they can establish the Southern Confederacy? One would suppose from Mr. Stephens' declaration that the South means to establish a government whose "chief corner-stone" shall be African slavery, was conclusive evidence that the possession of slaves was to constitute the badge of distinction for this novel order of aristocracy. The declarations of Dr. Bow's famous Southern Review, are still more clear and emphatic. It says:

"Foreigners understand and admire the leveling democracy of the North, but cannot appreciate the aristocratic feeling of a privileged class as universal at the South. A non-slaveholding community in the midst of the South, will ever be dissatisfied and treacherous. Witness Saint Louis, Louisville, Northwestern Virginia and Eastern Tennessee. We must exclude such communities in future, at any cost."

And so soon as the Southern Confederacy is allowed to succeed in establishing its hideous throne over a portion of the Federal Union, so soon will the rod of a cotton aristocracy drive from its dominion the non-slaveholding whites, on whom they will ever look with a jealous and suspicious eye.

With this trifling little manufacturing village, near this city, has caught the spirit of patriotism in a most eminent degree. There are fifty-two of its inhabitants subject to military duty, of which thirty-one have enrolled their names as volunteers, and are ready to go forward to do battle for the preservation of the Union, and it is expected that some others will follow their patriotic example. The workmen of the country are becoming thoroughly aroused to the importance of this contest to each one personally. They realize the fact that the war was gotten up at the South to change our republican form of government, and to establish on its ruins an aristocracy of monarchy. Those who were "not born with silver spoons in their mouths" from enjoying the rights of free-born citizens, bequeathed to them by the patriots and heroes of the revolution—They behold in it, in fact, a conspiracy against them by the South, and in looking around them they find that those in their midst who are aiding and abetting the traitors in this attempt to defraud them of their rights are the ex-headers who, by the chance of birth or accident, have inherited a little more of this world's goods than some of their neighbors, and therefore, presume to consider themselves peculiarly entitled to be considered as of the "aristocracy," and as superior to the "mud sills" who labor with an honest industry, for the maintenance and support of their families, and who are, indeed, the bone and sinew of the country—the true men and the reliable of their nation's strength and prosperity. May the vile wretches who have conspired at this conspiracy never be forgotten. They deserve the execration of the oppressed of humanity of every clime. It is a sin they have committed against the family for ages to come. Break down our free system, and with it falls to the ground human liberty in every country. The despots of the world would point to it as an evidence of the want of capacity of man for self-government, and forthwith proceed to draw still closer the bonds of their oppression upon their subjects. It would be the darkest day in the calendar of the world for such a catastrophe to occur, as the breaking up of this asylum for the oppressed of the nations of the world; and a disunion of these States would effectuate that object. The man who aids in such an atrocious deed, deserves the execration of the human race.—*British Citizen.*

How to Blow the Nose.—Jenks, who has at heart the good of his fellow creatures, announces the following directions for blowing the nose. Pack tightly, in two pieces of combate paper, a quantity of fine gunpowder sufficient to fill each side of the nostril; insert them tightly up it, and light the ends, which should be protruding for the purpose, with a candle. The effect will be instantaneous.

LATEST INTELLIGENCE

Glorious News from the Potomac!

Gen. Jackson Reinforces Gen. Lee!

Harper's Ferry Recaptured by Burnside!

Longstreet and his Division Captured!

Prospect of Routing the Entire Rebel Army!

Investment of Charleston by our Gunboats!

Rebels Evacuate Harper's Ferry!

General Longstreet Killed and General Hill Captured!

The Rebel Army Cross the Potomac!

Howell Cobb Wounded & a Prisoner!

The South Carolina Brigade Annihilated!

Washington, September 17.—At three o'clock this afternoon intelligence was received that since 5:30 this morning the fiercest and most sanguinary battle of the whole war has been in progress. All the corps of armies which McClellan had taken with him to Frederick were massed at a point indicated, and the engagement is believed to have been between the whole of the two armies. There is reason to suppose the losses on each side are very great, as requisitions for medical stores and arrangements for wounded men to be sent to Rokeville immediately are larger than have ever been made at any time.

Information has been received that McClellan destroyed an aqueduct at the mouth of Antietam Creek and the bridge across that creek upon the road leading to Sharpsburg, thus cutting off the retreat of the rebels in the direction of Sheperdstown. Later reports from Hagerstown state that this P. M. the rebels are retreating in great disorder, and subsequently a rapid firing was heard in the direction of Williamsport, which induces the belief that McClellan had pursued the retreating rebels to that point, and that they made a stand there to cover their passage across the Potomac.

Reconnoissances made by Col. Davis' cavalry, who made a dash foray towards Hanover Junction from Frederickburg, and now under command of Heintzelman, show that since Friday last the rebels have evacuated Leesburg, and that a force of ten thousand men, with thirty pieces of artillery and a supply train two miles in length, has gone in the direction of Harper's Ferry.

Information received here, which, however, is not deemed altogether reliable, says that a large rebel force is marching northward upon the other side of Bull Run mountains. Measures have been promptly taken to ascertain the truth of the report.

A gentleman of this city, who is conversant with the region about Sharpsburg, says the Potomac can be forded at Sheperdstown, at Antietam Creek, at Dam No. 4, and at Harper's Ferry.

A letter received to-night from Lieut. Russell, of the 96th Pennsylvania, states their loss at the battle of the Pass of Blue Ridge to be 150. Maj. Martin and Lieut. Dougherty were killed.

Hagerstown, Sept. 17.—A great battle has been fought to-day. We were victorious. The carnage on both sides was awful. Longstreet not killed, but wounded, and a prisoner.

July—10 P. M.—A dispatch just received at headquarters from Hagerstown says: "We have achieved a glorious victory. Gen. Hooker is wounded in the foot. No particulars received."

Boston, Sept. 17.—Reported investment of Charleston by our gunboats has been confirmed by a letter received in this city from on board the United States steamer Bilby, which says Fort Sumter has already received preliminary shelling of shot and shell, which resulted in serious damage.

Commander John Perceval, U. S. N., died at his residence at Roxbury, this morning.

Baltimore, Sept. 17.—Over twelve hundred rebel prisoners, captured in the recent battles, arrived here this evening and will be sent north to-morrow.

Boston, September 17.—The G. O. train for Newburg, on the Eastern railroad, when passing through Wenham, collided with an excursion train. Two firemen were killed, and some 30 or 40 more or less were wounded.

Cincinnati, September 18.—The rebels commenced falling back yesterday, and at last accounts were between Demosville and Palmetto, burning bridges on the Covington and Lexington railroad.

A scouting party of fifty-three of the Tenth Kentucky Cavalry, engaged 100 of the enemy near Florence last night, killing 4, wounding 7, and routing the remainder. Our loss is 1 killed and 1 wounded.

General Wallace has been relieved of the command of the forces here and directed to report for duty at Columbus, Ohio. The command of the troops here has been assigned to General A. J. Smith.

General Nelson has recovered, and will command the troops at Louisville.

Philadelphia, September 18.—A special dispatch dated Hagerstown, (yesterday) to the Press, says of the fight on Tuesday: The battle raged with great spirit. The firing on either side was very heavy till towards sundown, when the rebels were flanked by Hooker and Porter, and severely punished. Their line became desultory, and it was evident their ammunition was giving out.

This morning the battle was renewed by the rebels with renewed vigor; they acted as if they had been reinforced and furnished with fresh ammunition. The battle lasted till 4 o'clock this P. M., when the rebels retreated, leaving Longstreet and the remnant of his division in our hands as prisoners.

The entire rebel army will be captured or killed. There was no chance left for them to cross the Potomac, as the river is rising, and our troops are pushing them continually and sending prisoners to the rear.

It is reported here that Miles executed his Bull Run scene at Harper's Ferry, which was surrendered to the rebels in a shameful manner.

Six batteries of artillery, belonging to Longstreet's division, were captured yesterday and to-day. It is said we have taken nearly fifteen thousand prisoners since Sunday.

Stone wall Jackson's army is with Lee, and with other distinguished officers, will be forced to surrender within a day or two at farthest.

Our immense army is in motion, and our generals are certain of ultimate and decisive success. Stores for our army are coming by way of Harrisburg and Baltimore.

Burnside has retaken possession of Harper's Ferry, and is advancing on a special mission with his corps.

Fortress Monroe, September 18.—The steamboat Vanderbilt arrived this morning with about 1,100 Union soldiers and officers from Aiken's Landing, the 16th.

Last evening the balance of the paroled prisoners all passed through here, en route for Annapolis, where they have been taken, amounting to 5,122. Some were too sick to leave Richmond.

New York, September 18.—Private dispatches to-day from points near Harper's Ferry seem to confirm, in all essential particulars, the good news published this morning, and leave no reasonable doubt of the re-capture of Harper's Ferry and Williamsport.

Williamsport, September 17.—Apparently well-founded rumors say a great battle took place to-day at Centerville, on Hittorstown Creek, resulting in our success.

Washington, September 17.—Wounded officers who arrived to-night from Western Maryland say that when they left, at 7 o'clock this morning, a battle had commenced at Burkittsville.

Hagerstown, Pa., Sept. 17.—The Governor states that 72,000 men have responded to his call for defense of the State, and he expects the number will increase to 100,000. These men are being furnished with equipments and moved to the State borders as rapidly as possible.

Washington, Sept. 17.—A gentleman arrived from Annapolis states that three transports arrived yesterday, from James River, bringing 2,500 paroled prisoners, including officers, teamsters, sutlers, and blacksmiths.

Hagerstown, Pa., Sept. 17.—In the battle to-day our right wing reeled on Sharpsburg, and our left this side of Antietam Creek, near Porters-town.

The rebels are falling back on Harper's Ferry much hurried and dispirited. The wounded are arriving at Hagerstown.

The bridge reported destroyed by the Federal forces was the canal bridge at or near Williamsport. The destruction of this bridge is of great importance, as it impedes the rebels from bringing up supplies.

Baltimore, Sept. 17.—The following is from the Baltimore American's special: The cannonading on Tuesday afternoon was very heavy, and continued, with some intermissions, until long after night. This (Wednesday) morning it was resumed at daybreak with a violence and rapidity that people in the vicinity, who watched the progress of the five days' contest, say was certainly unprecedented.

It was one continuous rattle of heavy guns, and from the position I occupied, McClellan's right appeared to rest on Sharpsburg and his left on Catocin Creek.

The rebels destroyed the bridge over this creek yesterday, but McClellan rebuilt it during the night.

The position occupied by McClellan seemed to be advantageous. The guns seemed to be stationed on a range of hills, from the apex of which clouds of smoke rolled up in the distance, marking distinctly the line of conflict.

Cannonading commenced at daylight, and was heard distinctly up to 1 o'clock, causing the impression that the great battle of the campaign was in progress.

Wounded were being carried towards Hagerstown and Boonesboro, so that little could be heard from the battle field in the direction of Hagerstown.

Reports received, however, are highly favorable, our forces at the time having the best position, the battle being principally with artillery. Soldiers who were on the field on Tuesday state that it consisted entirely of artillery that day.

It commenced early in the morning and continued till late at night. McClellan having at the close of the day driven them one-half mile, and ordered an elevated position from which he operates to-day. The fight yesterday was sharply contested by the enemy. It was only at the close of the day that the slight advantage mentioned was gained.

Humors afloat are various, among which it was said that Jackson and Hill, were again crossing the Potomac in the rear of Lee, by way of Sheperdstown, thus cutting back from Harper's Ferry to secure their commander. This would be practicable, and the rapid manner in which they evacuated Harper's Ferry seems to indicate their sudden appearance at some point least expected. It is evident McClellan is pressing Lee to the river in such a manner that his army cannot much longer sustain itself, unless relieved from the other side. Its crossing in the face of such determined pressure is impossible, and events to-day and to-morrow are likely to indicate the success or total failure of the campaign.

Indianapolis, Sept. 17.—An order was issued to-day from the General Commissioner's office, from which the following extracts are taken:

"The returns are all in, and the quota of the several townships in each county will be forwarded to the Enrolling Commissioners of the several counties before the close of the present week, if possible."

"Each township will thus be enabled to ascertain its deficiency, and if that is supplied by volunteers before the day fixed for the draft, then no draft will be made in that township; and if the deficiency is only partly supplied by volunteers, then the draft will only be made for the residue, according to data furnished by the General Government."

"The number to be yet supplied by Indiana to relieve her from a draft is 50,000. Volunteers will be received for twelve months, not only to supply the deficiency of 50,000, but also an equal number for the State at large will be accepted, making a total of 120,000."

"The draft will take place on the 9th of October next in every township in which any deficiency exists at that time."

"Indiana has in the field, in camp, &c., over 90,000 volunteers, and it is consequently for the small number yet required to fill her complement."

"Passes to leave the State are no longer required."

By order of the Governor.

J. P. S. DALL, General Commissioner."

Washington, September 17.—Casey, commanding provisional brigades, is ordered to concentrate his command on the Virginia side of the Potomac, in a position for continuing the drill of instruction and discipline with which he is charged.

Barry, in addition to duties, is Inspector of Artillery, and has been ordered to report to Banks, as Chief of Artillery for defenses of Washington.

Hagerstown, Pa., September 17.—A dispatch just received at headquarters from Hagerstown, says: "We have achieved a glorious victory. Longstreet is not killed, but wounded and a prisoner. General Hooker is wounded in the foot. No particulars received."

Baltimore, September 17.—The American Frederick Letter says: "At the departure of the cars this afternoon, it is very generally asserted that Harper's Ferry fell into our possession again on Tuesday evening at 7 o'clock, and was occupied by a portion of Burnside's troops before the rear of Hill's division had all crossed the river. To the extent of 4,750 by one statement, and 4,000 by another, were taken prisoners. I have conversed with some soldiers of the New York 12th regiment, who were not paroled by the enemy, their haste being so great that they could not spare time to attend to them, who informed me there was no doubt that the place was now in our possession. They say it was 4 o'clock on Wednesday before an opportunity was given them to cross the bridge, and they had not proceeded more than a mile before the advance of our column."

"They say the rebels did not undertake to hold the place, but merely made a hasty passage through, not even taking time to secure plunder, much of which, for want of transportation, they destroyed."

The rumor of the taking of the Ferry this evening, says nearly all our guns and arms are recaptured, and that so sudden was the descent the rebels did not succeed in destroying the railroad bridge."

The whole number of killed, during the siege, was 43, and about 150 wounded.

Frederick, Sept. 16.—I regret to announce the surrender of Harper's Ferry, with all the forces and stores there, to the enemy, at 9 o'clock on Monday morning. The enlisted men and some officers have been paroled and have arrived here from there. I gather the following particulars:

The rebels commenced the attack on Friday at noon on our forces at Maryland Heights. Skirmishing was continued throughout the day, and was renewed on Saturday. The enemy were driven back with considerable loss.

They came up several times and were repulsed, when it was discovered that they were approaching in overwhelming force. The order was then given to spike the guns and throw them down the mountain, our whole force retiring from the Heights in safety, the guns from Camp Hill shelling the enemy when they attempted to pursue our retreating men.

On Sunday morning a party of our men again ascended the Heights, and brought away their field pieces which they had left unspiked.

Sunday at noon the rebels appeared in great force on London Heights, and shelled from point to point. Some of their guns were dislodged, but they still managed to keep up a brisk fire from some of their batteries, which were run back out of sight and loaded. The cannonading kept up all day Sunday without doing much damage. The firing ceased at dusk on Sunday evening, but resumed again on Monday morning at daylight and kept up till 9 o'clock, when Miles ordered the white flag to be raised. There was considerable fog and smoke, and the enemy did not see the flag or would not see it, and kept up a heavy fire for three-quarters of an hour. About ten minutes after the flag was up a shell struck Col. Miles, shattering his right leg. It was amputated before the prisoners were paroled.

There were about 2,500 cavalry in command, all of whom, but about forty, escaped about eight o'clock on Sunday night, and cut their way through to Greencastle, with but little loss. The balance of the troops, numbering from 6,000 to 8,000, with Gen. White's command from Hagerstown, arrived all surrendered. Gen. Hooker captured a side of Stuart's on Monday evening, who was making his way from Harper's Ferry to Boonesboro with a dispatch from Jackson to Lee, announcing the capitulation of the place. The side support Lee was at Boonesboro, which was in our possession. This was the first intimation of the surrender to our generals had received. At that time Franklin was within three hours of the Ferry, going to the relief of the beleaguered command, while he had been sent by McClellan, so soon as he had received the dispatch from Miles, on Monday morning, that he was in danger.

Frederick, September 16.—The following is to the Baltimore American:

Intelligence from the front this morning is of the most cheering character. McClellan, having driven them with a vigor most destructive to the enemy, McClellan pursued the enemy on Monday morning with reserves and a large body of fresh troops. The enemy took the road towards the river at Harper's Ferry, and at Sheperdstown, and he was pursuing them and shelling their retreat with great loss in several columns. Sunday, when the rebels landed, our troops charged on them with such vigor that they fell back from point to point in great haste. The battles and advantages obtained Monday are thought to be superior in importance to those of Sunday.

Drayton's South Carolina brigade is entirely gone, either killed, wounded, or prisoners. The 17th Michigan, a new regiment, attacked this brigade first with bullets and finally with bayonets. Howell Cobb was wounded and taken prisoner.

McClellan was pushing on them last evening closely, and had already sent the rear 8,000 prisoners and 4 batteries.

Frederick, Md., Sept. 16.—After the battles of South Mountain Gap and Burkettville Gap, fought respectively by forces of Burnside and Franklin on Sunday, the enemy having been driven from their position, fell back rapidly to Boonesboro. Thence southward to Sharpsburg, and began crossing the Potomac above and below Sheperdstown. Pursuit by our troops was rapid, Hooker following by way of Boonesboro, supported by Sumner and Banks.

The enemy breakfasted at Keedysville, three miles from Boonesboro, but our cavalry soon drove their rear guard from that place.

Peter's and Reno's corps took a short road over the mountain, and arrived at Sharpsburg at sundown, capturing hundreds of prisoners on the way.

Franklin's corps, supported by Couch's division, passed through Burkettville Gap, which he captured so handsomely,

striking the road leading direct from Boonesboro to Harper's Ferry, and thence moving in the direction of the latter place, gaining Eldridge Mountain, which flanked the enemy's position and brought them within good range of our artillery.

Franklin's corps fought a brilliant battle on Sunday evening at Burkettville Gap. The enemy was terribly repulsed, though great advantages of position were with them. Hancock's brigade made a charge up a hill and captured a battery of six pieces.

Howell Cobb and all of his Georgians and the 110th Virginia regiment were taken entire, and fragments of many other regiments.

On Sunday, Longstreet marched back from Hagerstown to re-engage the troops fighting at the Gap. He arrived in time to join the fight. We have taken since Friday last about six thousand prisoners, with less than the usual proportion of officers. The mountains are full of stragglers, starving, demoralized rebels, who are giving themselves up as fast as they can find their way into our lines.

On Thursday last Jackson crossed the Potomac at Williamsport, and marched towards Harper's Ferry, which place he invested on Saturday. He captured Maryland Heights on the north, and London Heights on the south side of the river. On Sunday he attacked the Ferry, but was repulsed. On Monday morning at daylight he renewed the attack, and the place was surrendered by Dixon Miles at seven o'clock. This disaster will enable the rebels to cross the Potomac with the greater proportion of their force.

On yesterday evening, previous to this news, McClellan and Burnside were rapidly making such dispositions as would have resulted in the complete defeat or capture of nearly all of the entire rebel host.

The rebels pressed their rear hastily last evening, and the prospect was most brilliant until we learned that Harper's Ferry was no longer ours, the enemy having got mainly across the river and into strong position. A great battle will probably be deferred several days until new combinations of movements is resolved on.

The Union army is in splendid condition. The men are all in light marching order, and bonanza spirits over their success. Several regiments of new recruits were in the fight on Sunday and behaved with great bravery.

Our total loss went probably exceeded 2,500 killed and wounded, with a very small proportion of killed. I can learn of few field officers killed. The death of Reno is mourned throughout the whole army.

The churches in Middletown and Frederick are to be occupied by the wounded.

Frederick, Sept. 16, 2 P. M.—Late!—One loss at Harper's Ferry is light, less than 300 killed and wounded. Forces captured were the 87th, 60th, 32d Ohio, 9th Vermont, 39th, 115th, 126th, New York, 12th New York State Militia, and Indiana battery, besides Maryland Home brigade.

Heavy fighting going on to-day in Pleasant Valley, north of the Ferry.

New York, Sept. 17.—The morning papers contain nothing additional to what was telegraphed last night, with the following exception. A Washington dispatch to the Herald says the following important intelligence has just been received. It puts a new phase upon the condition of affairs at Harper's Ferry, and shows that, although there has been no direct intelligence from McClellan during the night, the enemy are evidently panic stricken, and moving to await the approach of the victorious army even in strong positions. By dint of overwhelming numbers, the small garrison under Miles was compelled to surrender, after nearly three days' hard fighting, and after Miles had been seriously wounded and incapacitated for further participation in the defense of the position.

Information is telegraphed to-night from the Herald correspondent to Frederick as follows:

An officer who has just arrived from Harper's Ferry reports that the rebels had evacuated the place in a great hurry. They are sending everything across the river as fast as possible. They left Harper's Ferry in such haste that they had no time to complete paroling the prisoners, and a number were unconditionally released in consequence.

(Special Dispatch to the New York Times.)

Hagerstown, Pa., Sept. 16.—We have just received tidings that the two portions of the rebel army have united on this side of the Potomac, numbering it is supposed, 70,000 men.

Later—3.40 P. M.—A battle is reported as going on at this P. M. The result is not yet known.

New York, Sept. 17.—The Times' correspondent states that Longstreet was killed and Hill captured by our forces.

Washington, Sept. 16.—The following extract from a letter received at the War Department, dated Mesilla, Arizona, August 15th, 1862, refers with little less an army may be moved. It must be remembered that California troops have marched through a desert country, where no provisions or forage could be obtained; therefore, everything for horse and man was carried with them, and yet, with a train with less than that of a regiment, not marching 50 miles from Washington, they have averaged 15 miles a day for nearly 60 days.

The first infantry and cavalry California volunteers have successfully marched one thousand miles over the route by the Colorado desert, Gila river, Tucson, and the Milbrecker, from the Pacific to the Rio Grande. This they have done without the loss of any men in the Indian and rebel skirmishes, with abundant supplies and a serviceable train, and in a condition for immediate contact with the enemy.

Officers shared the hardships of the march alike without tents and without baggage, one wagon sufficing to transport ten days' rations and property of each company for fully half the distance, over the burning deserts in midsummer, with a scanty supply of water.

The men have uncomplainingly carried their knapsacks. They have all been too well satisfied at every step which carried them nearer to the heart of the rebellion.

At a recent sale of choice violins in London, a Cremona of 1745 was sold for \$100, one of 1701 for \$135, and one of 1807 for \$210. The total amount of the day's sale was \$1,717, and the number of violins disposed of was only seven. The average price realized was therefore over five hundred dollars a fiddle.

A chap in Virginia was taken prisoner by the rebels, who demanded that he should take an oath to support the Confederate Government. The fellow said he could not even support his own family, and to support the Confederate Government was more than he dared do.

Making a Needle.

Needles are made of steel wire. The wire is first cut by shears, from coils, into the length of the needles to be made. After a batch of such bits of wire have been cut off, they are placed in a hot furnace, and then taken out and rolled backwards and forwards on a table till they are straight. They are now to be ground.

The needle-point takes up two dozen or so of the wire and rolls them up between his thumb and fingers, with both ends on the grindstone, first one end and then the other. Next is a machine which flattens and gutters the heads of ten thousand needles in an hour. Next comes the punching of the eyes, by a boy, so fast that the eye can hardly keep pace with him. The splitting follows, which is running a fine wire through a wheel, perhaps, of these twin needles. A woman, with a little anvil before her, files between the heads and separates them.

They are now complete needles, but they are rough and rusty, and easily bent. The hardening comes next. They are heated in batches in a furnace, and when red hot are thrown into a pan of cold water. Next they must be tempered, that is done by rolling them backwards on a hot metal plate. On a very coarse cloth needles are spread in the number of forty or fifty thousand. Emery dust is strewn over them, oil is sprinkled and soft soap daubed over; the cloth is rolled hard up, and with several others of the same kind thrown into a sort of wash-pot to roll to and fro twelve hours or more. They come out dirty enough, but after a rinsing in clean hot water, and fasting in sawdust, they become bright, and are ready to be sorted and put up for sale.

Infant Baptism.—A few days ago a baby was taken to church to be baptized, and his little brother was present during the rite. On the following Sunday, when baby was undergoing his ablutions and dressing, the little brother asked mamma if she intended to carry Wallie to be christened. "Why, no?" said his mother: "don't you know, my son, people are not baptized twice?" "What?" returned the young reasoner, with the utmost astonishment in his earnest face, "if it didn't take the first time?"

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